

Am
Inaugural Dissertation

Phthisis Pulmonalis.

by David Hutchinson

read Mar 9th

1818

Preface

In selecting the subject of pediatrics particularly for my inaugural Dissertation, I am well aware of the difficulties I have incurred, and am conscious of my inability to do justice to a theme at once so complicated and important. I do not flatter myself that the following sheets will contain much new information, or that I shall add much to the facts already established; and yet here make my acknowledgments to the authors from whom my information has been derived. I will indulge the hope that particular references may be dispensed with.

Knowing the liberality of sentiment which so particularly marks the character of the Gentlemen to whom this Essay is particularly submitted, I feel assurance, that the first production of a juvenile mind, although void of perfection, cannot fail to meet with a forgiving indulgence.

1700

the state of the world, and the progress of the human mind, is a subject of great importance, and one which has attracted the attention of philosophers and statesmen for many centuries. The history of the human mind, from the earliest times to the present, is a story of progress, of discovery, and of improvement. The human mind has been able to overcome the most difficult problems, and to achieve the most remarkable successes. The progress of the human mind is a testament to the power of human reason, and to the ability of the human mind to overcome the most difficult challenges. The history of the human mind is a story of progress, of discovery, and of improvement. The human mind has been able to overcome the most difficult problems, and to achieve the most remarkable successes. The progress of the human mind is a testament to the power of human reason, and to the ability of the human mind to overcome the most difficult challenges.

Inaugural Dissertation

Long and gloomy is the catalogue of physical sufferings to which man, placed at an immeasurable distance above the animal by the characteristic excellencies of material organization, and by the exclusive attributes of reason and intelligence, stands exposed: heavy the tribute which, at the shrine of eternal and humbling justice, he is called upon to pay for his proud preeminence in the rank of created being. Civilization too with all her charms, and blandishments introduced among her favoured children, a train of evils and diseases which are almost unknown to the more cold and rugged walks of savage life. Amid the sufferings and the diseases which this catalogue exhibits to our view Phthisis Pulmonalis stands inscribed in distinguished characters of terror and devastation. With the vulgar every malady of which extreme emaciation constitutes a striking feature, however its origin and essence, is designated by one familiar and indiscriminate term. And medical men, too few, too frequently cloak beneath that chilling and pestiferous name "consumption" their own care, impotency, and thus prematurely quench every hope, still fondly cherished in the bosom of friendship and

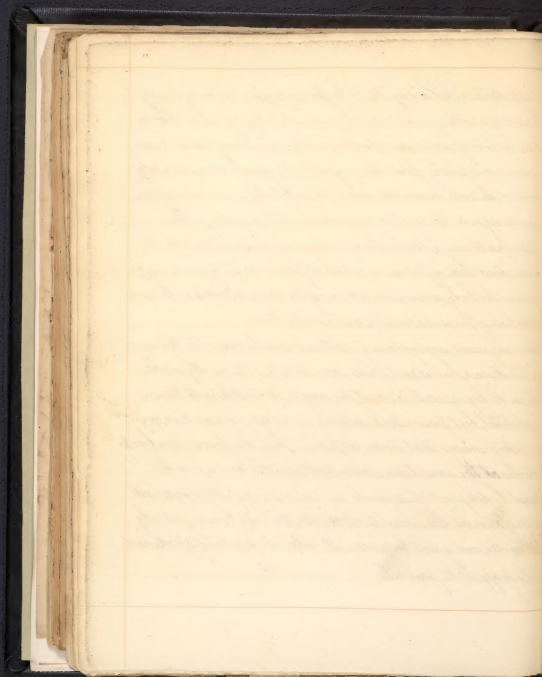
Journal of J. G. Smith

1847
The first of the season was a fine day, the sun shined
brightly and the wind was light. We went out for a
walk in the morning and saw many of the birds
which were beginning to come out. The first of the
season was a fine day, the sun shined brightly and
the wind was light. We went out for a walk in the
morning and saw many of the birds which were
beginning to come out. The first of the season was
a fine day, the sun shined brightly and the wind
was light. We went out for a walk in the morning
and saw many of the birds which were beginning to
come out. The first of the season was a fine day,
the sun shined brightly and the wind was light.
We went out for a walk in the morning and saw
many of the birds which were beginning to come
out. The first of the season was a fine day, the
sun shined brightly and the wind was light. We
went out for a walk in the morning and saw many
of the birds which were beginning to come out.

of affection. Not a day it is to be passed proper, but many cases of phthisis, capable of great and even permanent relief by the well directed resources of science, are abandoned as hopeless, some of which, terminating unexpectedly from the unopposed energies of nature, serve only to shock the with diminished honour, the nostrum of some vile empiric, and to degrade the regular physician in the eyes of the public.

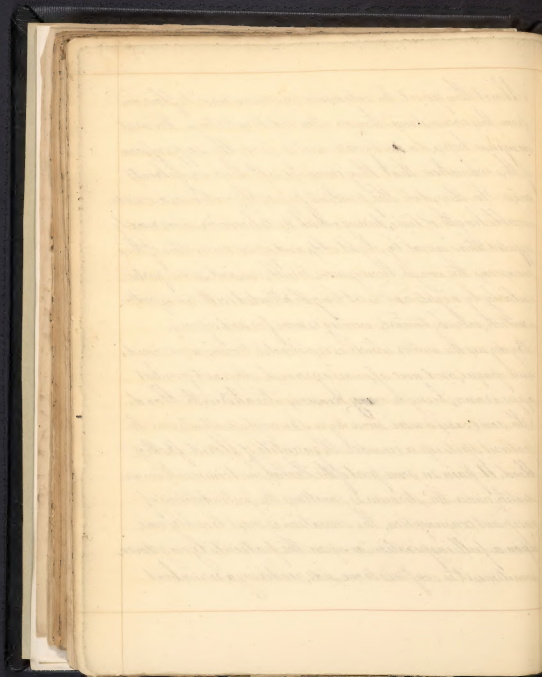
By phthisis pulmonalis or pulmonary consumption is to be understood that affection in which a general wasting or consumption of the body arises from a disease of the lungs, attended with expectoration of purulent matter, and a hectic fever.

The incipient symptoms of phthisis usually vary with the cause of the disease, but when it arises from tubercles, it is mostly marked thus: It begins with a short dry cough, that at length becomes habitual, but from which nothing is got up, for some time, except a pretty viscosity that seems to proceed from the lungs. The breathing is at the same time, somewhat impeded, and upon the least bodily motion is much hurried, a sense of strangling, with oppression at the chest is experienced, the body becomes gradually emaciated, and great languor with indolence, depletion of spirits and loss of appetite prevail.

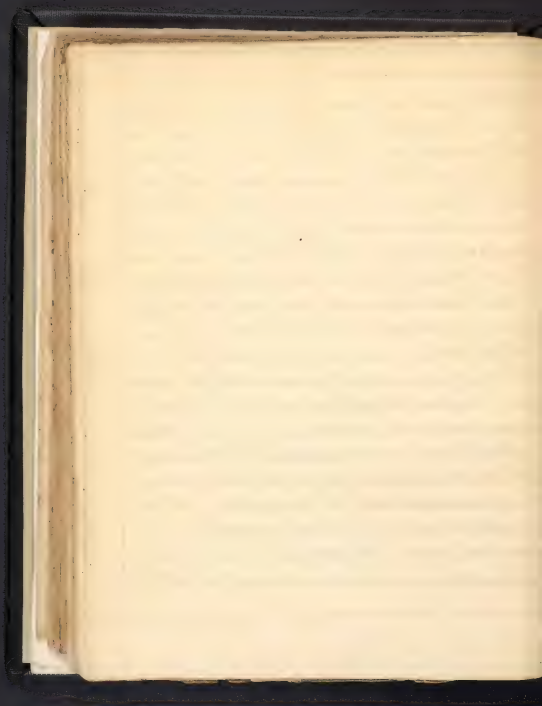


About this period the catamenia in women cease to flow, and from this circumstance they are often led to entertain the most sanguine hopes of a speedy cure, as it is from the suppression of this evacuation that they imagine all their complaints arise. In this state the patient frequently continues a considerable length of time, during which he is however more readily affected than usual by slight colds, and upon one or other of these occasions the cough becomes more troublesome and severe, particularly by nights, and is at length attended with an expectoration, which, towards morning is more free and copious.

By degrees the matter which is expectorated, becomes more viscid, and opaque, and now assumes a greenish colour and purulent appearance, being on many occasions streaked with blood. In some cases a more severe degree of haemoptysis attends, and the patient spits up a considerable quantity of florid frothy blood. A pain in some part of the thorax, most commonly immediate under the sternum is sometimes the first indication of incipient consumption, the sensation is most troublesome upon a full inspiration, or upon the patient lying down, sometimes it is confined to one side, rendering a recumbent

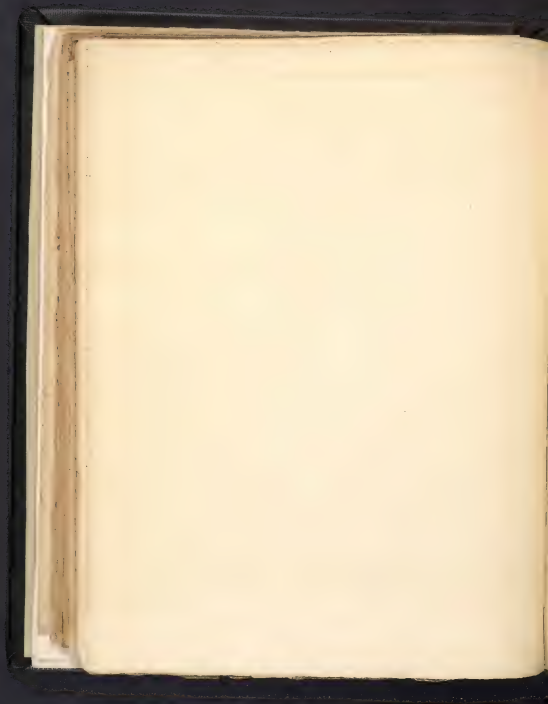


position deep mouth and tongue. At the commencement of the
disease the pulse is often natural, or perhaps slightly small and
a little quicker than natural, but when the symptoms subside
there have sometimes have subsisted for any length of time.
it then becomes full hard, and frequent. At the same time
the face flushes, particularly after eating the patient, the
hands and where the feet are affected with burning heat
the respiration is dry, hoarse and laborious, even in moderate
exercise obvious and tedious, the pulse assumes the hectic form.
In the evening, according to Sæm, either a cold or
a moderate fever is excited, or even in the latter case
in the day, the second gradually increases till after midnight
when a remission takes place, and becomes more evident as the
morning advances. The exacerbations are frequently attended
with cold shivering and a morbid sensibility to air currents.
The air does which takes place in the evenings shows
the most considerable. From the first appearance, the pulse
implies the urine is high coloured, and deposits a brown
fæcious sediment. If a patient survives is not really
impaired, he loses a restriction the mouth is usually moist



and the thirst is inconsiderable. (4) The disease advances, the jaws
put on either an inflamed appearance, and are beset with aph-
thae and the red vessels of the tunica adnata become of a purple
tint. During the exacerbations, a vivid circumscribed indur-
edness on each cheek, but not often, since the face is pale and the
countenance somewhat relaxed.

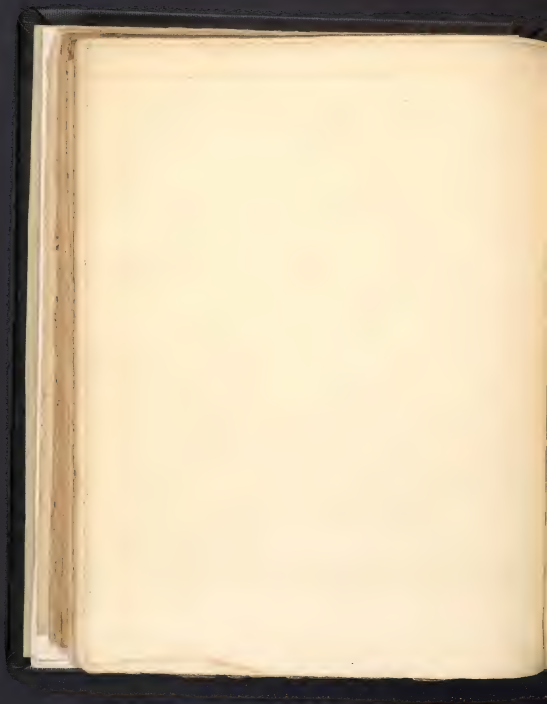
(5) At the commencement, hectic fever the pulse is usually excited, but
in the more advanced stages, it is diarrhoea often common
and this continues to recur frequently during the remainder of the
disease; catarrh of the rectum is likewise broken out and there is the usual
with each other and intense extreme distress. In the last stage
of this disease, the emaciation is so great that the patient has the
appearance of a skeleton, an often insupportable is uttered, the
cheek bones are prominent, the eyelids hollow and around his hair
falls off, his nails are of a livid colour and much increased, and his
feet are affected with cutaneous swellings. Delirium seldom
attends this disease, the senses and judgements remain
unimpaired, and the most sanative efforts never, save the
tincture, but with life. Towards the close the disease becomes
restless and disordered, the mind and memory becoming more



1
tend, show in the greatest debility of the body, his own pulsing
and dropping his neck and, still more, his countenance, his own
his complaints, which, and in such, to die without a con-
sciousness of pain or anxiety.

I have thus endeavored to give a description of Pulmonary
Consumption as it most commonly appears, but the changes it
admits are so various, and its symptoms often so complicated
that the limits of an inaugural essay do not permit me to trace
it through its different forms.

It may not however be improper to observe here that it is not un-
frequently complicated with other diseases, the most common of
which are scrophulous rheumatism, and gout, it has likewise
been observed to give place to mania; pains in different
parts of the body, and cutaneous eruptions; its progress appears
to be arrested in the most remarkable degree by the state of the
system which is induced by pregnancy, from impurification
of the blood, according to Boerhaave, and his very ingenious ideas
of the disease, viewing it to an undue & excessive the
blood, & stationing in his opinion by diminishing the capacity
of the thorax, and thereby lessening the proportion of





perhaps them to a natural complaint here we find, as numbers
of the fur traders & Indian hunters have been afflicted with
consumption & most prevalent is the discovery of their clothing.

Even the long thin Indian robes in their robes, even by extreme
consumption is most prevalent is the discovery of their clothing.

But in our western country, their clothing is not the only circumstance
which increases to consumption, some suppose our country men are
to be almost entirely exempted from it while others suffer particularly.

In confirmation of this idea I am happy in being able to bring forward
the testimony of Doctor Rush who observed when speaking of the Indian
case, that it is scarcely known among the inhabitants of our Indian
settlements.

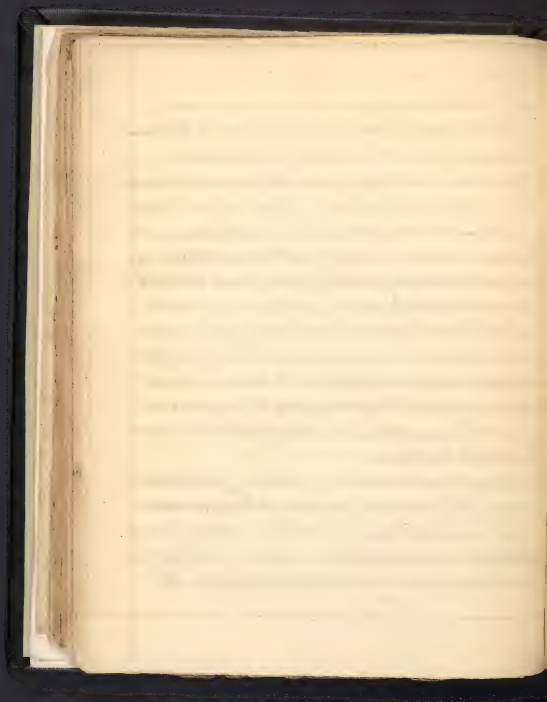
It is generally believed that in Oregon, our country
were more exempted from consumption, however this may have been
it is certain, that since the introduction of European habitation
amongst them, consumption has not been uncommon, the active employment
which the Indians are very limited and for the most part the
coldest humor only can raise them from the state of inactivity, abundant
in the same life, in these circumstances, much it is to be wondered
at, that the Indians should be found to be afflicted with, recent
diseases. If any situation in life can entirely preclude them from consumption
in consumption it is more probable that it is a reversed state, in



much the individual and great examples have suggested by
an unimpaired constitution, a state usually removed from the limitations
of immoderate luxury, and the attendant torments of disease.

It has been an idea, held out by some of the first medical characters
dissevered, and even some who were in a short connection, and ma-
ny instances have been adduced, where one person has communicated
the disease to another, but this were not but unethical and
even wants the character of probability. Some opinion that such
cases may be accounted for with a view to such an hypothesis, the
necessity of it cannot be denied that an hereditary predisposition
exists, by which were man one person in a family might be subjected
to Phthisis, and to this one state of liability induced by a constant
attention to a patient languishing under this disease, and we
will not be surprised that, some instances of the disorder should
be attributed to contagion.

It is true, however, that in an exacerbation of pulmonary
tracheitis, the characteristic symptoms of pulmonary consumption,
an individual is affected, and some instances of contagion are worth
remembering, this in a considerable degree, and as it is a contagious disease
it is able to distinguish it from the other, with subject to



method commonly used for this purpose.

1. st let the impregnated matter be digested in sulphuric acid and ~~in~~ caustic lithium and add pure water to both solutions if there is a fair precipitate in each, it is a certain sign of the presence of pus; but if there is not a precipitation in either, it is certainly mucus. 2. nd Nitric acid digested both mucus and mucus to be, and a white powder is produced, and the fluid above becomes clear and green, while water and the solution of mucus form a turbid, cloudy fluid.

3. rd Crystallized lymph is neither soluble in concentrated nor diluted, nitric acid.

4. th Consider whether it crystallizes more pure or more caustic. 114.

1. st and a question is now to be answered, ~~is it~~ ^{is it} mucus or pus, since the former being attended with a hectic, &c.

1. st and in the next place present to, take the disease, in which pulmonary consumption depends, since in various, it is not likely to impair the strength of the system. There is, however, a state of debility in the body in general, or in the lungs in particular, so as to render them more susceptible of the action of stimuli; may be justly imputed among the remote causes of this disease.



Neurotypus, however, exists in the lungs, it is a consequence of
state of chronic activity, or, for a while, an acute inflammation.

Medical writers have likewise described it as an acute local in-
jury, particularly wounds, the lungs, &c. It is now supposed
the most dangerous in certain manufactures, the impurities the
last mentioned circumstance can occur, as in the case of the
quercuilla there has been generally supposed. It is now in the substance
of the lung, they occur in a highly state, in the lungs, & before are now
to be considered as an acute disease, & in the lungs, & in the lungs,
& in the lungs. The lungs, however, are a disease of consumption, from
this cause, observed that, in never, and it is produced by a wound in the lungs.

Doctor Rush in his second volume of medical inquiries and obser-
vations, gives an instance which must be said, ever, and in the
subject, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, and in the lungs, & in the lungs,
British, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs,
in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs,
in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs,

What, suddenly, suddenly, suddenly, and in the lungs, & in the lungs,
in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs,
in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs,
in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs,
in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs,
in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs, & in the lungs,



or acute sort. To these causes may be added a retention of urine in
suppression & an extraordinary evacuation.

¹⁸²¹It may not perhaps appear strange to our subject to enquire, under what
circumstances in our disease, hæmoptoea now caters, as it is used to arising
from the lungs? To however, hæmoptoea is now, as a symptom of a gen-
eral disease which has occasioned a considerable degree of debility, & phthi-
sis pulmonalis may be denoted as its consequence; the same may be expected
when from the magnitude of the injury and the irritation given to the
bronchial vessels a cough is kindled which if long continued, must
necessarily bring on a state of general or pulmonary debility.

In this situation of system, hæmoptoea is most commonly attended
by an ulcer in the lungs, the irritation, is sometimes alluded with
little or hectic; and frequently attends a long soon treated.

Even when hæmoptoea is undulation have happened to be
repeated, there are instances of persons recovering entirely after several
such conditions.

There never has been shown the cause of pulmonary consumption
except in those cases in which it has been felt in the hands
nature, and in which evacuation was not then practised. Nature
contravening to remove herself of the violent symptoms; the former



... the times their danger
into a chronic affection. From this circumstance, it is
called ... with a ...
... the active ...
... in this ...
... in ...
... in ...
... in ...
... in ...

... frequently ...
... with ...
... with ...
... with ...
... with ...
... with ...
... with ...

... the ...
... the ...
... the ...
... the ...
... the ...
... the ...
... the ...

... the ...
... the ...
... the ...
... the ...
... the ...
... the ...
... the ...







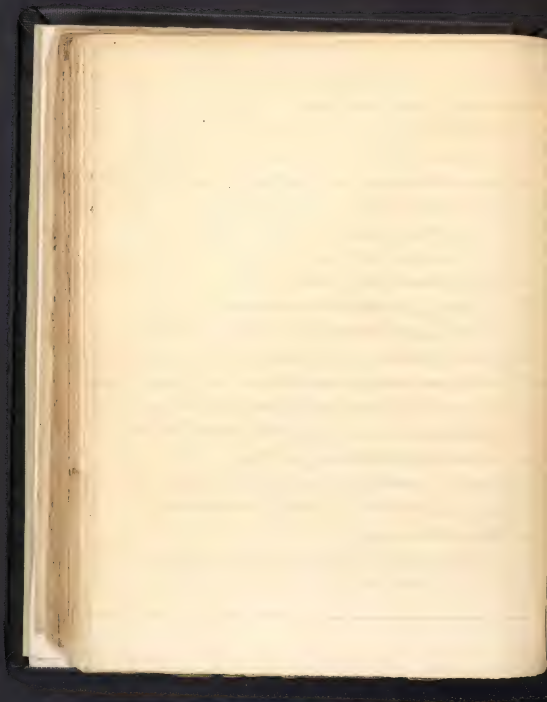
highly important. When early visited, we have an opportunity of procuring & instituting
the systematic & intelligent management of pleurisy, this is a subject of great
importance, & much has been recommended to be made use of in pleurisy, and
we to be found in the works of our authors on this subject, & in the
old would be, both as to the nature and extent, we want the kind of
effort, & many of them are inert, useless, and improper. I shall then
leave it to the practitioner to decide in each case, & practice within con-
stitutional exigencies demand, and his judgment directs.

From the analogy of scrophulous, to tubercular consumption, promises
much. It will be generally admitted, that external stimulations,
swellings, and suppurations, often tend to prevent internal disease.

We see in the same manner, even just a sacrifice to pleurisy, while
others labouring under arthritic swellings, cure it. I have seen
a person apparently in the last stage of pleurisy, saved by the pinning
of the neck, suddenly swelling and suppurating.

In consumption, the patient may be able to give ground
in his own case, & even cure, and yet not recover, &
it is stated in his case, & interpreted.

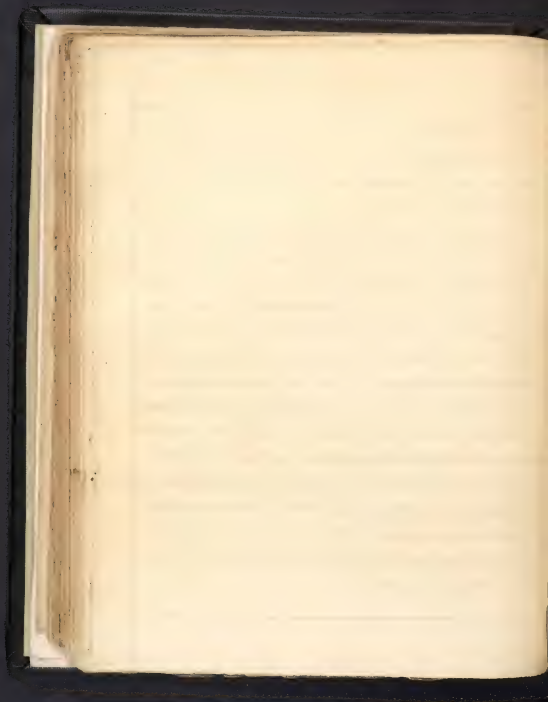
"Helle, better, & at last, thirty years, a woman, & even more
my relations, & the family, & the whole, & the whole, & the whole."



month (Jan. 1892) the patient was admitted to the hospital, and was the subject of the following case. She complained of a steady ataxic gait and of numbness in the lower extremities, steadily increased in extent and intensity, and accompanied by loss of power.

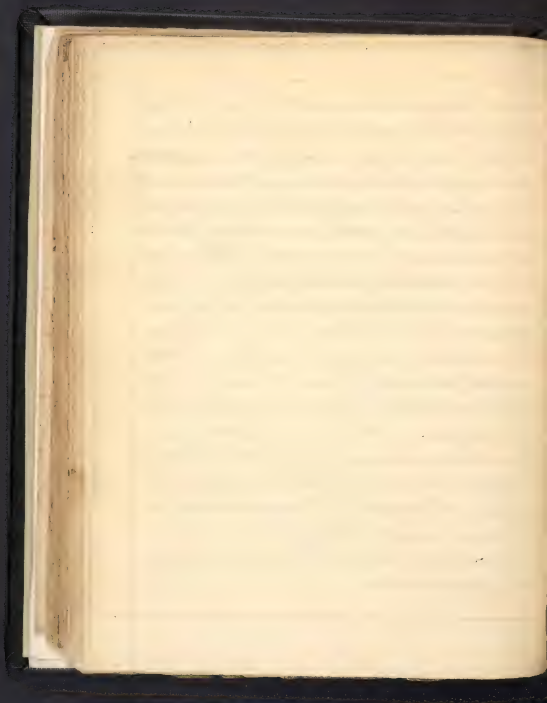
While I was waiting for the consultation in order to be sent to
see you and to make arrangements for a strong internal sin con-
signment. The first time I saw her she called my attention to sev-
eral large serpiginous tumors situated on the thorax and gave
me a great deal of pain and for which she was anxious to have
relief. Her attention had not been directed to this subject, since her case was unknown to me
and determined on giving a trial to the remedy. The external
drugs inunction the internal. I must not of intention, were added to the
treatment early in the initiation and given as usual or in excess.

Incision was then made, and the abscess was opened. A suppurative discharge was established, and by degrees the patient underwent a complete cure, without the use of any other means than the knife and the discharge.





[illegible]



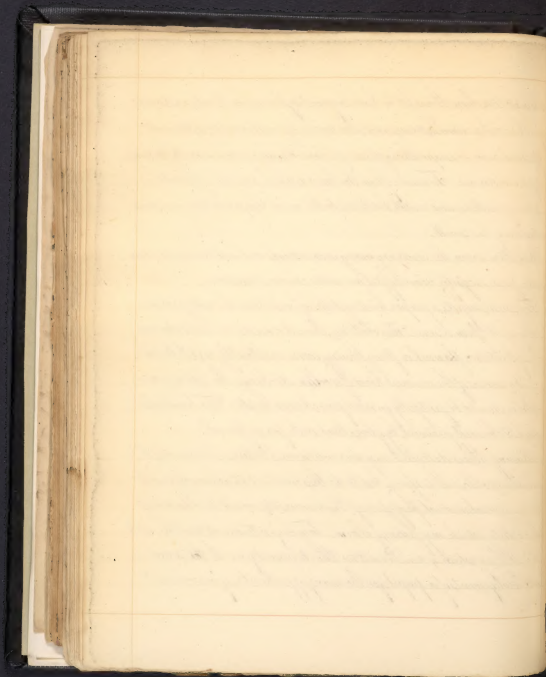
Climate has been thought to have a great influence on this disease and for those, whose circumstances and situation in life will admit of it, the most effectual mode to escape the influence of a bad climate, is permanently to change it for a better one. To remove from the humid, bleak, and changeable climate of northern and middle latitudes, to the more temperate, dry and steady climates of the south.

But there are even the contrary many individuals inclined to consumption, who from necessity, cannot effect an entire change of residence.

For such subjects, a proper kind of clothing constitutes the only probable safeguard from disease. This clothing should consist of an entire covering of soft cotton, flannel, or fleece, hairy, worn constantly next to the skin.

By means of the warmest kind of woollen stockings, the feet in particular, should be faithfully guarded from cold and moisture. The hands also ought to be well protected, by gloves lined with fur or flannel.

Having thus delivered my observations on this subject, I shall now close this essay, but to do this without an acknowledgment to the several medical professors of this university, would be a breach of that duty, which my feelings claim. To you gentlemen, at least this small tribute of my esteem is due. Permit me then to present you with the sincere acknowledgments of a pupil, for the many opportunities of improvement



which your truly valuable lectures have afforded him. That you may long
continue to exercise the duties attached to your respective departments, with
the same reputation that has heretofore characterized your labours, is my sin-
cere wish.

